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Summary record of the 1st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 15 September 2004, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Ping (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Gabon)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Organization of the fifty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/59/1 and A/59/355)

1. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to the memorandum by the Secretary-General regarding the organization of the fifty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/59/1) and to a letter from the President of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly addressed to the President of the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly (A/59/355), in which the President of the fifty-eighth session drew attention to section II of and annex I to the report of the Secretary-General on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/58/864), which the Assembly had decided to submit for consideration at the fifty-ninth session.

Memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/59/1)

Section II: Organization of the session

2. *The Committee took note of all the relevant information contained in section II of the memorandum. It decided to draw to the attention of the General Assembly all the necessary information and to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take action on all the proposals contained in that section.*

3. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the information contained in paragraph 17 of the memorandum.*

Section III: Observations on the organization of the work of the General Assembly

4. *The Committee decided to bring to the attention of the General Assembly all the information contained in section III of the memorandum.*

Section IV: Adoption of the agenda

5. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the draft agenda was now organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. The draft agenda contained in paragraph 54 of the memorandum was composed of all the items on the provisional agenda as contained in section II of the report of the Secretary-General on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/58/864) and as submitted by the President of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in document A/59/355, as well as items 17 (j), 159, 160 and 161. It also contained five new items, namely, items 153, 154, 159, 160 and 161.

6. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraphs 48 to 53 of the memorandum.*

7. **The Chairman** said that the representative of Egypt had asked to participate in the discussion. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to that request.

8. *It was so decided.*

9. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Elnaggar (Egypt) took a place at the Committee table.*

10. **Mr. Elnaggar** (Egypt) asked whether the Committee intended to discuss the new format of the draft agenda at the current meeting or at a later date in the context of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly. In accordance with section B, paragraph 2 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the Committee should consult with Member States before making recommendations to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly concerning the placement of agenda items under the new headings but, to his knowledge, no such consultations had taken place.

11. **Ms. Anguiano Rodríguez** (Mexico) endorsed the remarks made by the representative of Egypt.

12. **Mr. Bouheddou** (Algeria) endorsed the remarks made by the representative of Egypt. He had been under the impression that the restructuring of the agenda was still under discussion and took the view that the Committee should further consider the issue in the context of its forthcoming examination of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

13. **Mr. Bennouna** (Morocco), supported by **Mr. Balarezo** (Peru), said that the draft agenda contained in the Secretary-General's memorandum was merely a proposal and should be the subject of further discussions. Nevertheless, he suggested that any specific proposals pertaining to the inclusion of items

should be made immediately, since that particular issue could not be deferred.

14. *It was so decided.*

15. **Mr. Elnaggar** (Egypt) said that he was more than willing to take part in discussions on the inclusion of agenda items. However, in the absence of instructions from Cairo, he would be unable to support any proposals made until constructive consultations open to all Member States had taken place.

16. **Mr. Elnaggar** (Egypt) withdrew.

Inclusion of items

Heading A (Maintenance of international peace and security)

Item 28 (Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte)

17. *The Committee decided to postpone its consideration of the inclusion of item 28 to a later date.*

Item 84 (Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas de India)

18. **Mr. Oubida** (Burkina Faso), supported by **Mr. Cools** (Belgium), said that, following consultations with the representatives of France and Madagascar and without prejudice to the positions of those two countries, his delegation wished to propose that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly, that consideration of item 84 should be deferred to the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading A, taking into account the decisions taken in respect of items 28 and 84.*

Heading B (Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences)

21. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading B.*

Heading C (Development of Africa)

22. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading C.*

Heading D (Promotion of human rights)

23. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading D.

Heading E (Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts)

24. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading E.*

Heading F (Promotion of justice and international law)

25. **The Chairman** said that the representative of Costa Rica had asked to participate in the discussion. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to that request.

26. *It was so decided.*

27. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Díaz Paniagua (Costa Rica) took a place at the Committee table.*

28. **Mr. Díaz Paniagua** (Costa Rica) proposed that item 152 (International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings) should be included under heading F rather than under heading I.

29. *It was so decided.*

30. *Mr. Díaz Paniagua (Costa Rica) withdrew.*

31. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading F, taking into account the decision taken in respect of item 152.*

Heading G (Disarmament)

32. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading G.*

Heading H (Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations)

33. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the items listed under heading H*

Heading I (Organizational, aaministrative and other matters)

Item 153 (Observer status for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly)

34. **Mr. Wang** Guangya (China), speaking on behalf of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), namely, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, said that SCO had been established in Shanghai on 15 June 2001. It was an intergovernmental body dedicated to regional development and the maintenance of peace and security and its activities fully accorded with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It stood ready to engage in constructive dialogue with the United Nations on issues of mutual interest and, in that connection, the granting of observer status would enable it to pursue closer cooperation with the Organization. He drew attention to document A/59/141, in which members of the Committee could find more detailed information about SCO and its work.

35. **Mr. Vohidov** (Uzbekistan) said that his delegation supported the inclusion in the agenda of item 153. Granting the SCO observer status would ensure its effective contribution to security and stability, not only in its territorial area, but throughout the world. Strengthening cooperation between the Organization and regional organizations would help counteract current threats and challenges in the area of security, as well as in the areas of stability and development. He recalled that in the declaration issued following their summit meeting in Tashkent, held in June 2004, the Heads of State of the members of SCO had stressed their readiness to participate in the construction of a new security architecture, as well as the importance of their interaction with the United Nations.

36. **Mr. Kazykhanov** (Kazakhstan) said that his delegation fully supported the statements made by the representatives of China and Uzbekistan. Kazakhstan attached great importance to the strengthening of ties between the United Nations and SCO, which was open to cooperation with other countries and international organizations in the political, commercial, economic, humanitarian and scientific spheres, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law.

37. **The Chairman** said that the representatives of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan had asked to participate in the discussion of item 153 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

38. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Moldogaziev (Kyrgyzstan) and Mr. Nazarov (Tajikistan) took places at the Committee table.*

39. **Mr. Nazarov** (Tajikistan) said that his delegation also supported the proposal to include item 153 in the agenda. Over the years, the United Nations had stepped up its efforts to forge partnerships with regional organizations in order to achieve the common objectives of peace, security and development. Granting observer status to SCO would not only expand the Organization's geographical area of cooperation but also enhance efforts for the maintenance of international peace and security.

40. **Mr. Moldogaziev** (Kyrgyzstan), expressing support for the proposal of the representative of China, noted that the main purposes of SCO were to strengthen mutual trust and friendship among member States and to develop their effective cooperation in the political, economic, commercial and other spheres. In the field of security, SCO focused on combating terrorism, separatism and extremism, and had recently established a permanent secretariat and a regional anti-terrorist structure.

41. *Mr. Moldogaziev (Kyrgyzstan) and Mr. Nazarov (Tajikistan) withdrew.*

42. **Mr. Konuzin** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation supported China's proposal. The request for observer status for SCO was motivated by the desire to establish close and effective ties of cooperation with the United Nations. Granting the request would allow for a genuine strengthening of the interaction of the United Nations with regional organizations and enhance the opportunities for maintaining international peace and security.

43. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 153 under Heading I of the agenda of the fifty-ninth session.*

Item 154 (Observer status for the Southern African development community in the General Assembly)

44. **The Chairman** said that the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania had asked to participate in the discussion of item 154 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

45. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Mahiga (United Republic of Tanzania) took a place at the Committee table.*

46. **Mr. Mahiga** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced their request for the inclusion of item 154 in the agenda of the General Assembly. The programme of action of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was compatible with that of the United Nations in the areas of peace and security, democracy, gender, science and technology and regional integration in general. If the SADC were to be granted observer status, the two institutions would be able to share information at the regional level on the implementation of various United Nations programmes. Moreover, the SADC subregional arrangements for cooperation constituted regional building blocks for international peace and security. Observer status in the General Assembly would enhance the partnership between the two organizations.

47. *Mr. Mahiga (United Republic of Tanzania) withdrew.*

48. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 154 under Heading I of the agenda of the fifty-ninth session.*

Item 159 (Question of the representation of the twenty-three million people of Taiwan in the United Nations)

49. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 159 had been requested in document A/59/194. The representative of the Gambia had asked to address the Committee on the matter under rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

50. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Grey-Johnson (Gambia) took a place at the Committee table.*

51. **Mr. Grey-Johnson** (Gambia), speaking on behalf of Belize, Burkina Faso, Chad, Grenada, Malawi, the Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Palau, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Swaziland and Tuvalu, said that the request for the inclusion of item 159 in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session had been submitted. Pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a letter circulated in document A/59/194, along with an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II). The Committee faced yet another opportunity to revisit the burning question of the representation of the 23 million people of Taiwan, whose exclusion from the United Nations represented a moral and political indictment of all Member States. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) did not state that the People's Republic of China represented China at the United Nations, or that Taiwan could not be admitted into the United Nations, where the Taiwanese people currently had no representation.

52. In an era of threats and new challenges to the international system, to leave out any nation was foolhardy and counterproductive, especially at a time when States were eager to tighten cooperation in all areas and strengthen global governance. The fact that Taiwan was a sovereign nation could not be disputed. All nations of the world, including Taiwan's main detractor, conducted trade and other exchanges with Taiwan as a sovereign entity. Taiwan continued to make invaluable contributions to the global economy, and was emerging as a potentially strong power broker in East Asia, where its record as a functioning democracy and a champion of human rights stood out among those of its peers. Taiwan's ranking as the world's 17th-largest economy was a remarkable feat, in view of the political isolation it had been forced to endure, and showed that Taiwan was more than ready to play its full part in global affairs. Taiwan had also shown its readiness to assume humanitarian responsibilities.

53. It was particularly impressive that Taiwan continued to be committed to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, perceiving itself as a responsible and integral member of the international community. No unilateral policy on Taiwan's sovereignty could be implemented through the threat or use of force, which were illegal under the Charter. Events in the Taiwan Straits should elicit a response from the United Nations. Cross-strait talks

aimed at achieving lasting peace and stability remained the legitimate goal of the peace-loving people of Taiwan and should also be the goal of every peace-loving neighbour in that region and beyond. The United Nations could not ignore the legitimate aspirations of the people of Taiwan and expect to achieve the purposes of the Organization. The Committee had the chance to set in motion a process that should lead to the rectification of one of history's great injustices — the exclusion of Taiwan from the United Nations.

54. *Mr. Grey-Johnson (Gambia) withdrew.*

55. **The Chairman** said that a number of non-member sponsors had asked to participate in the discussion of item 159, in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure. In addition, there were a number of non-member non-sponsors who had asked to participate. He took it that the Committee agreed to waive rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

56. *It was so decided.*

57. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Mayoral (Argentina), Mr. Taranda (Belarus), Mr. Leslie (Belize), Mr. Nkingiye (Burundi), Mr. Sambath (Cambodia), Mr. Laotegguelnodji (Chad), Mr. López Clemente (Cuba), Mr. Mavroyiannis (Cyprus), Mr. Kim Chang Guk (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), Mr. Ileka (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Mr. Elnagger (Egypt), Mr. Avomo (Equatorial Guinea), Ms. Talbot (Guyana), Mr. Flores Callejas (Honduras), Mr. Neil (Jamaica), Mr. Vixay (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr Chiphamba (Malawi), Mr. Capelle (Marshall Islands), Mr. Gal (Mongolia), Mr. Chidumo (Mozambique), Mr. Wali (Nigeria), Mr. S. Beck (Palau), Mr. Buffa (Paraguay), Mr. Richardson (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Mr. Ferreira (Sao Tome and Principe), Mr. Badji (Senegal), Mr. Davies (Sierra Leone), Mr. C. Beck (Solomon Islands), Mr. Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Oyarzun (Spain), Mr. Limon (Suriname), Mr. Nhleko (Swaziland), Mr. Nazarov (Tajikistan), Mr. Koubaa (Tunisia), Ms. Ataeva (Turkmenistan), Mr. Taupo (Tuvalu), Mr. Wagaba (Uganda), and Mr. Nuñez de Odreman (Venezuela) took places at the Committee table.*

58. **Mr. Wang** Guangya (China) said that his delegation was strongly opposed to the inclusion of item 159 in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session. A small number of countries had once again raised the issue, with the aim of crating "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan" in the Organization. That intention was clearly contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), as well as a brazen challenge to the "one-China" principle widely recognized by the international community. His Government and the Chinese people strongly opposed that gross encroachment on China's internal affairs.

59. Taiwan had been an inseparable part of China's territory since ancient times. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation had unequivocally reaffirmed China's sovereignty over Taiwan as a matter of international law. There was but one China in the world, and his Government was the sole legal Government representing the whole of China. A total of 160 countries had diplomatic relations with China. All recognized the "one-China" principle and all recognized that Taiwan was a part of China. Moreover, General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) recognized that the representatives of his Government were the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. Since Taiwan was a part of China, China's representation at the United Nations naturally included Taiwan. The so-called issue of "Taiwan's representation in the United Nations" therefore did not exist. Since 1993, the Committee had always refused to recommend the inclusion of that so-called issue in the agenda of the General Assembly, thereby demonstrating the determination of the vast majority of Member States to uphold the Charter of the United Nations.

60. The question of Taiwan was a purely internal matter for China. His Government's position on the question was firm and clear. Adherence to the "one-China" principle was the basis for the development of cross-Strait relations and the realization of peaceful reunification. China was resolutely determined and was fully capable of blocking any attempt to separate Taiwan from China. Respect for State sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in countries' internal affairs were important principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and China appreciated the just position adopted by the vast majority of Member States.

61. **Mr. Laotegguelnodji** (Chad) said that his delegation supported the statement of the representative of the Gambia. The Republic of China on Taiwan had been one of the founding members of the United Nations. General Assembly resolution

2758 (XXVI) had never established the jurisdiction of the People's Republic of China over the Republic of China on Taiwan. Some 30 Member States had established diplomatic relations with Taiwan and over 100 other Member States, had economic, commercial and cultural ties with Taiwan. The People's Republic of China itself benefited from growing investments by Taiwan, and both countries had been admitted to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2002. It was therefore his hope that the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly would respond to the legitimate request that Taiwan should once again become a full member of the Organization.

62. **Mr. Kim** Chang Guk (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that Taiwan was an inseparable part of the People's Republic of China, as confirmed in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). History had shown that the artificial division of nations caused suffering to the people and political instability. The Taiwan issue was an internal matter for China to resolve, and the United Nations should not be used to legalize "two Chinas". His delegation was therefore opposed to the inclusion of item 159 in the agenda.

63. **Mr. Kazykhanov** (Kazakhstan) said that his delegation fully supported the Government of the People's Republic of China in its determination to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and was therefore opposed to the inclusion of item 159. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the people of China and Taiwan was an inseparable part of China's territory. The adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had already resolved the issue, in political, legal and procedural terms.

64. **Mr. Elnaggar** (Egypt) said that his Government had been first among Arab, African and Middle Eastern States to recognize the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people. Taiwan was an inseparable part of China. He expressed the hope that one day the Chinese people would be united under the Government of the People's Republic of China. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively resolved the issue of representation of the Chinese people at the United Nations. Accordingly, his delegation did not accept the inclusion of the item on the agenda.

65. **Mr. C. Beck** (Solomon Islands) said that the Republic of China on Taiwan had met all the requirements to qualify as a sovereign State under the Charter and international law. Such global threats as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and HIV/AIDS underscored the need for the involvement and close cooperation of all States. Taiwan had made considerable economic and political progress and should serve as a model from which to learn. Its reinstatement as a Member State would help to take the multilateral process to a new level and contribute to the revitalization of the Organization. His delegation was therefore in favour of including the item in the agenda.

66. **Mr. Vohidov** (Uzbekistan) said that his delegation firmly believed that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people and fully supported all the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). He therefore rejected the idea of including the item on the agenda.

67. **Mr. Nhleko** (Swaziland) said that the United Nations could not afford to fail the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan in their desire to be represented in the affairs of the Organization. The people of Taiwan believed in their inalienable right to determine their future, free from coercion, and in their right to membership in the United Nations. They had demonstrated a wish to be responsible members of the international community and cooperate with other nations in providing assistance and supporting sustainable development. Including the item in the agenda was in no way a frivolous attempt to create two Chinas or interfere in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China. Since 1949, the two sides on the Taiwan Straits had been governed as separate entities. It was in the interest of the People's Republic of China to accept Taiwan as a friendly neighbour and move towards peaceful coexistence.

68. **Mr. S. Beck** (Palau) said that Taiwan, a modern democracy with a powerful economy, was too important to be marginalized and excluded from decision-making in the international community. Its involvement in such areas of international cooperation as health protection and air safety was crucial. The United Nations could no longer ignore its presence or deny it representation. In keeping with the Charter, Member States should not deny the people of Taiwan the same right to self-determination that had been

afforded his own country and had led to its independence.

69. **Mr. Chidumo** (Mozambique) said that there was only one China and Taiwan had been part of the People's Republic of China since antiquity. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation had affirmed China's sovereignty over Taiwan under international law. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), adopted by an overwhelming majority, had resolved the issue of China's representation in the United Nations in political, legal and procedural terms. The annual attempts to challenge the validity of resolution 2758 (XXVI) were an attack on the credibility of the United Nations. He was opposed to inclusion of the item.

70. **Ms. Ferrari** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) said that her delegation supported the return of Taiwan to its rightful place as a Member of the Organization. It was encouraging that relatively small and, some would say, unimportant States could bring the issue of Taiwan's lack of representation to the attention of the international community. The repeated mention of "one China" and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) gave the false impression that the matter had been resolved. If that were the case, however, she failed to understand why weapons had been deployed on one side of the Taiwan Strait and pointed in one direction. Her Government maintained excellent relations with the People's Republic of China and wished to play an active role to promote dialogue and cooperation between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan so that the critical situation could be resolved in the interest of peace and security

71. **Mr. Ferreira** (Sao Tome and Principe) said that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had not resolved the issue of representation of the people of Taiwan at the United Nations. The denial of the right to international representation contravened the principle of universality under the Charter. The principle of one China only created tensions and should not be applied against the will of the people of Taiwan. His delegation suggested that the United Nations should organize a referendum of the people of Taiwan on whether they supported a policy of one China, two systems. The Republic of China on Taiwan should be brought into the Organization given that it met all the requirements for membership.

72. **Mr. Castellon** (Nicaragua) said that the principle of universality was the cornerstone of the international system established by the Charter of the United Nations, under Article 4 of which membership in the United Nations was open to all peace-loving States. Taiwan was a State that met all the requirements under international law, as it was neither a colony nor a province or territory of another State. The 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation had been issued without the participation of representatives of Taiwan or of the People's Republic of China, and had been aimed at achieving peaceful coexistence between the hegemonistic Powers of that era. The 23 million people of Taiwan were requesting the right to representation in the United Nations under the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had provided for the admission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, but had not addressed the question of the representation of Taiwan, and had been improperly used to justify its exclusion. Therefore, his delegation supported the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session.

73. **Mr. Vixay** (Lao People's Democratic Republic) reiterated his delegation's well-known position on the matter. There was only one China, of which Taiwan was an inseparable part, and the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate Government representing China and its people. As General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question, his delegation opposed the inclusion of the item.

74. **Mr. Buffa** (Paraguay) said that his Government's position on the question of the representation of the 23 million people of Taiwan in the United Nations was contained in a letter to the Secretary-General which had been circulated as document A/59/322. His Government maintained full diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations with the Republic of China (Taiwan) and respected the progress it had made, especially in the economic and commercial sphere. In view of the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter, it believed that the international community must consider the proposal in question, as it would for any other State which met the requirements laid down in the Charter. In line with that policy, Paraguay had supported the admission to WTO of both the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan). Therefore, it supported the inclusion of the item.

75. **Mr. Badji** (Senegal) said that support for the inclusion of the item in the agenda was a genuine act of faith rooted in dedication to the principles of solidarity, tolerance and justice. The sovereignty of Taiwan should not be called into question and its isolation was unacceptable. The Republic of China on Taiwan was a founding Member of the United Nations; it enjoyed solid State institutions; played an active role in promoting fraternal relations in the international community; and was actively engaged in development programmes. His delegation supported all peaceful efforts to advance the reunification process, but that must be achieved only with the consent of all people concerned.

76. **Mr. Oyarzun** (Spain) said that inclusion of the question of Taiwan on the agenda was not timely.

77. **Mr. Neil** (Jamaica) said that Member States should avoid actions that undermined the principles of territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the issue of the representation of China at the United Nations and made clear that the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate and recognized representative of the people of China. His Government was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

78. **Mr. Taupo** (Tuvalu) said that the humble and reasonable request to include the item in the agenda reflected the principle of universality and the need for the international community to cooperate to meet global challenges. Taiwan had demonstrated its good will on the international scene over such issues as health. It was a model for the international community of a State striving to maintain its existence as a democracy.

79. **Mr. Tun** (Myanmar) said that there was only one China, which was represented by the People's Republic of China, and Taiwan was an integral part of it. Bearing in mind the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States, his delegation viewed the item as a flagrant violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question of representation. His delegation therefore fully supported the position of the People's Republic of China and opposed the inclusion of the item.

80. **Mr. Chimphamba** (Malawi) said that Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations called into question the principle of universality and violated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had never designated Taiwan as part of the People's Republic of China. His Government would respect any peaceful agreement between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan based on justice, fairness and mutual respect. However, as a democracy with 23 million people and a vibrant economy, Taiwan should be able to participate in the work of the United Nations and its agencies. The General Assembly should therefore give urgent consideration to the issue of Taiwan's restoration to the Organization's membership.

81. **Mr. López Clemente** (Cuba) said the proposal to include item 159 was inconsistent with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including resolution 2758 (XXVI), which provided a political, legal and procedural solution that was both just and definitive. Thirty-three years earlier, the representatives of Taiwan had been expelled from the United Nations and all its associated organizations. His Government's position remained unchanged. There was only one China, and the letter and spirit of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) must be upheld. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

82. **Mr. Sambath** (Cambodia) said that the question of Taiwan was a purely internal matter that must be dealt with by the people of China themselves through peaceful means. His Government therefore firmly supported a "one-China" policy and opposed any effort to review General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and to include the item in the agenda.

83. **Mr. Capelle** (Marshall Islands) said that his Government favoured the inclusion of item 159 and reiterated its full support for the ongoing quest of the people of Taiwan to participate in the United Nations. Taiwan was a peace-loving, representative, democratic, sovereign State, committed to human rights and prepared to carry out its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, and was an active, constructive member of the international community. It had achieved internationally recognized progress in both economic and social development and had long been willing to share its prosperity through various forms of international development assistance and humanitarian aid. The democratically elected Government of Taiwan was the sole legitimate representative of the people of Taiwan at the United Nations. His Government therefore urged all Member States to put aside their

own political interests and support the inclusion of the item for the sake of the people of Taiwan.

84. **Mr. Mayoral** (Argentina) said that his Government's position was that item 153 should not be included in the agenda for the fifty-ninth session, as General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had decided the question in 1971, based on the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. Argentina had full relations with the People's Republic of China, of which Taiwan was an inalienable part. It therefore rejected all attempts by Taiwan to join the United Nations as a separate entity.

85. **Mr. Arrouchi** (Morocco) said that his delegation also agreed that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the matter on the political, legal and procedural levels. No new information had been received that justified reopening the discussion; his delegation therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

86. **Mr. Flores Callejas** (Honduras) said that the spread of such pandemic diseases as HIV/AIDS, SARS and malaria called for the cooperation and involvement of humanity as a whole to combat them effectively. The recent expansion in the membership of the WTO, which had enabled both the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to participate in its work, gave reason to hope for even broader cooperation between those two nations. In that spirit, his delegation hoped that it would be possible to continue the consideration of the matter in question.

87. **Ms. Ataeva** (Turkmenistan) said that, in the view of her delegation, General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question of the representation of China in the United Nations. Therefore, the Committee should decide not to recommend inclusion of the item in the agenda.

88. **Mr. Aliyev** (Azerbaijan) said that his delegation also supported the "one-China" policy. In accordance with the principle of territorial integrity, his Government viewed the question of Taiwan as an internal matter to be resolved within the People's Republic of China, and therefore, opposed inclusion of the item in the agenda.

89. **Mr. Nkingiye** (Burundi) said that his Government recognized one China, the People's Republic of China, of which Taiwan was an integral part; therefore, it opposed inclusion of the item.

90. **Mr. Koubaa** (Tunisia) said that in the view of his delegation, the question of the representation of China had been settled by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

91. **Mr. Mekdad** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that inclusion of the item in the agenda would be in violation of the Charter, and any attempt to question the existence of one China would violate the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China.

92. **Mr. Wali** (Nigeria) said that to support the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations would be to recognize it as a sovereign State, in violation of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The issue should be resolved on the basis of Articles 3 and 4 of the Charter. Therefore, his delegation did not support inclusion of the item.

93. **Mr. Oubida** (Burkina Faso) called on the international community to reconsider the situation of Taiwan. The decision taken by the General Assembly in 1971 was no longer a valid argument against its representation, given the progress it had made and the fact that it met all the conditions for membership in the Organization. Its admission to WTO in 2002 was a further indication that the matter should be given due consideration. Therefore, his delegation supported inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session.

94. **Mr. Nazarov** (Tajikistan) said that China's sovereignty had already been determined in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI): there was only one China and Taiwan was a part of it. Therefore, his delegation opposed inclusion of the item.

95. **Mr. Wagaba** (Uganda) said that the matter had already been considered in the General Assembly. His Government upheld a "one-China" policy; it therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

96. **Mr. Musambachime** (Zambia) said that his delegation reaffirmed its opposition to the inclusion of the item, but recalled that, at the fifty-eighth session, the Committee had rejected the recommendation for inclusion of the item but had urged dialogue on the matter.

97. **Mr. Gal** (Mongolia) said that it was the official position of his Government that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the question of the representation of China in the United Nations. His delegation saw no compelling reason to contradict a

General Assembly decision by including the item in the agenda.

98. **Mr. Limon** (Suriname) said that, based on the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity, the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of China. His Government continued to support a one China policy; it therefore opposed inclusion of the item in the agenda.

99. **Mr. Leslie** (Belize) said that in the view of his delegation, the matter of the representation of China had not been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). A delicate balance must be struck between the principles of universality and sovereignty on the one hand and the fundamental human rights of the 23 million people of Taiwan on the other. His delegation, therefore, supported the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations and the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

100. **Mr. Davies** (Sierra Leone) said that his delegation maintained its position that Taiwan had been an integral part of China since ancient times. International legal instruments could not be ignored, and therefore it opposed any attempt to divide China.

101. **Mr. Avomo** (Equatorial Guinea) said that it was the position of his Government that there was no justification for consideration of the item since the matter of the representation of China had been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

102. **Ms. Anguiano Rodríguez** (Mexico) said that, because of its support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China as expressed in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), her delegation opposed inclusion of the item.

103. **Mr. Talbot** (Guyana) said that, in accordance with his Government's one-China policy, Taiwan was an integral part of China. Therefore, his delegation opposed inclusion of the item.

104. **Mr. Mavroyiannis** (Cyprus) said that his country had suffered division, and he would not want to see the same fate befall the people of China. Therefore, it supported a one-China policy, in accordance with the Charter, and opposed inclusion of the item.

105. **Mr. Ileka** (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that his Government recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate Government of China, and thus opposed the attempt to include the item in the agenda.

106. **Mr. Benmehidi** (Algeria) said that Algeria had full relations with the People's Republic of China and considered that the question of its representation had been resolved in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). It therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

107. **Mr. Taranda** (Belarus) said that his delegation supported the territorial integrity of China as described in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), and therefore did not support inclusion of the item.

108. **Mr. Richardson** (Saint Kitts and Nevis) said that the question before the Committee had been discussed many times in the past without being resolved. It was clear to his delegation that Taiwan did not see itself as part of China, and several other countries agreed with that view. The international community owed it to the people of Taiwan to listen to them. His delegation therefore supported inclusion of the item in the agenda.

109. **Ms. Nuñez de Odreman** (Venezuela) said that it was the view of her delegation that the item should not be included in the agenda because it violated the principle of sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.